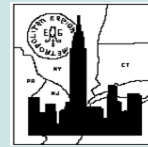


# TALKING THREADS

MONMOUTH CHAPTER — Founded June 4, 1975  
Metropolitan Region, Embroiderers' Guild of America



Editor: Anne Flaherty Rajswasser

Ellen Saines, President

January 2026

## **PRESIDENT'S GAVEL**



Ellen Saines, President

Hi Everyone,

I want to wish you all a Happy & Healthy New Year with time to finish the projects you desire to finish and start the new projects you want to start.

With that said, I hope you are taking advantage of the classes and projects our chapter offers. We will be recording the classes/projects that are meeting on zoom

for those members who are participating but can't make a zoom meeting. Our classes with outside teachers are subsidized for our members as are the GCC's we offer.

If there is a project that has caught your eye and you would like the chapter to offer it, please let me know and I will contact the teacher/designer.

I would like to thank our chapter board members for the time and work that they spend to keep our chapter functioning at this level and help with the workings of our chapter.

I would also like to thank Dee Longo for her work as our chapter treasurer for many years and her thoughts at our chapter board meeting. Enjoy your extra time Dee to stitch, knit or visit your children. Of course, the day meeting is still expecting your jokes.

Thank you to Sharon Brown for sharing our Facebook posts.

Again, a Happy & Healthy New Year to all our members and their families,

*Ellen*

### **Mark Your Calendar**

#### **Monday Evening Meetings**

January 5 & February 2 - Mad for Plaid

March 2, April 6, and May 11 - Tizrah Stocking

September 14, October 19 and November 9 - Debbie's Treat

#### **Thursday Day Meetings**

January 15 & February 19 Mad for Plaid

March 19, April 16 and May 21 Tizrah Stocking

September 17 & October 15 - Debbie's Treat

November 19 - Potluck and

Showcase of Holiday Pieces

#### **Sunday Meetings**

January 11 and February 8 - Mad for Plaid

#### **Zoom Classes**

SOTM: The first Thursday of the month at 7pm. Silken Sampler

January to October, the 3rd Tuesday of each month starting

January 20. Sherwood Garden

March 3, 17, 24, 31 - Symphony

Sept 8, 15, 22, 29 - Rennie's Rose

April 12, 19, 26 - May 10, 2027

Lil Sparks

### **Saturday Stitch In at the Colts Neck Library**

April 11, July 11, and October 10

#### **Stitching Time at the Colts Neck Library**

Thursdays, June 18, July 16 and August 20

#### **Registration Deadlines**

February 19 - Tizrah Stocking

February 27 - Spirit

August 20 - Debbie's Treat

Please go to page 8 for registration coupon.

## PROGRAM NOTES

### MONDAY EVENING MEETINGS

Please be aware that, due to conflicting schedules with the Colts Neck Library, several of our Monday evening meetings are not on the first Monday of the month. Note the dates below.

**January 5 and February 2 - Chapter Project, Mad for Plaid via zoom**  
We will be working on our Mad for Plaid Project Bags. **Registration closed.**



**March 2, April 6, and May 11** – In person at the Colts Neck Library. Doors will open at 6:30 and the class will begin at 7 pm. We will also continue our tradition of meeting for pizza at 5 pm at Orlando's.

**Tirzah Stocking stitched with Surface Embroidery Stitches – led by Janice Meyers**

We will be working simultaneously with the day group on this project, offering a second chance at instruction at the evening meeting or an opportunity to continue your project.



Have you ever found a design that you liked but didn't want to stitch it in the technique for which it was originally designed? When I saw the Tirzah Stocking in the March 2025 issue of Needle Arts, I felt that this design would work well stitched as a crewel piece. So I stitched it with crewel stitches and found that I liked the design even more! I chose not to finish it as a stocking (as was originally designed) but that's up to each stitcher. Some of the crewel stitches used are stem, satin, chain, fishbone, colonial knots and long and short.

**Registration deadline: February 19.** Since the evening group will not be meeting in person in January and February, please utilize the coupon in the newsletter to register for this project. Evening members should send their registration coupon to Kathy Sullivan.

**Student to Supply:**

- March 2025 issue of Needle Arts (make a photocopy of the pattern)

- Linen twill fabric, 12" x 8" (can be purchased from Karen at Nimble Needle NJ) – if you are not familiar with crewel stitches please purchase a smaller piece of twill, no smaller than 6" x 6" so that it can be used to practice the stitches.
- Embroidery hoop or stretcher bars
- Threads: can be wool, such as Appleton or Heathway or you can use cotton floss though the look will be a bit different. Colors are your choice. Note that I used Heathway wool.
- Tracing paper or window or light box to transfer the pattern (unless you want to have it finished as a stocking, DO NOT trace the stocking solid line and the sewing line)
- Chenille needles, size 24
- Usual stitching supplies including light and/or magnification if necessary.

**September 14, October 19 and November 9** – 6:30 at the Colts Neck Library  
**Debbie's Designs – Debbie's Treat – a free design led by Janice Meyers**

We will be working simultaneously with the day group on this project, offering a second chance at instruction at the evening meeting or an opportunity to continue your project.



This counted canvas project is a perfect piece for using stash in your favorite colorway(s). The same design in different colors looks completely different! This 5" square can be inserted into a box, finished as a stand-up or framed. To receive the free design, go to <https://debbeesdesigns.com/> and scroll down to the bottom of the page in which you can enter your email to receive the free chart and her newsletter. Threads used are Watercolours, perle cotton, floss and Kreinik. The complete supply list is listed in Debbie's design instructions.

**Registration deadline: August 20** - Evening members should submit their registration coupons to Kathy Sullivan.

**Student to supply:**

- Debbie's Treat design
- Canvas, Threads, Stretcher Bars, laying tool and usual stitching supplies, including light and/or magnification

**THURSDAY MEETINGS**

**January 15 and February 19 - Mad for Plaid Chapter Program**

This program is being held at all three chapter meetings in January and February.

**March 19, April 16 and May 21 – Tirzah Stocking stitched with Surface Embroidery Stitches – led by Janice Meyers**

See page 2 for more information.

**Registration deadline: February 19**

**September 17 and October 15 – Debbie’s Designs – Debbie’s Treat – a free design led by Janice Meyers**

See page 2 for more information.

**Registration deadline: August 20**



**November 19 – Potluck and Showcase of Holiday Pieces**

Bring your favorite holiday (any holiday) design and a dish to share with our members.

**SUMMER STITCHING TIME**

**Thursdays, June 18, July 16 and August 20 – Summer Stitching Time at the Colts Neck Library**

**SUNDAY MEETINGS**

**January 11 and February 8 - Mad for Plaid.** See page 2 for more information about this class.

Please contact Sharon Rosen with any questions.

**SATURDAY STITCH-IN**

**April 10, July 11, and October 10 - Saturday Stitch-In at Colt's Neck Library - we meet from 10 to 2. Bring your lunch and your project.**

**CLASSES ON ZOOM**

**SOTM: Silken Sampler by Margaret Bendig.** The first Thursday of the month at 7pm.



**Sherwood Garden by Kathy Rees.** January through October, the 3rd Tuesday of each month starting January 20, at 7pm.



**Symphony with Debbie Rowley.** March 3, 17, 24, and 31 at 7pm. Registration closed.



**Sept. 8, 15, 22, 29 Rennie’s Rose with Wendy Moore.** Further information and registration will be provided in the April newsletter.



**April 12, 19, 26, & May 10, 2027 Lil Sparks with Dawn Donnelly**



**PLEASE NOTE - Last call for joining SOTM 2026 and Sherwood Gardens. Contact Ellen if interested.**

**To register for a program, please contact the following members:**

**Evening:** Kathy Sullivan  
**Day:** Janice Meyers  
**Sunday:** Sharon Rosen

Please use the coupon on page 8 to register.

## Spirit designed by Sue Reed

A subsidized chapter project we will work on in June, July & August 2026 in person and on zoom.



Spirit, a geometric pattern of columns and blocks draws the eye to the center and to the secondary diamond shape of the design. The strong visual pattern of the diamond is enhanced by subdued corner patterns by using fewer strands and a lighter value. Learn to thread blend solid silks on the columns to produce a gentle color flow. Learn to color match and stitch with hand-dyed silks to achieve a unified look on the columns, to mirror-image the inner satin stitch border and the beautiful outer border. Learning to color match hand-dyed silks may be a challenge - but one that has its rewards in the visual effects of this design.

Design size: 8.5" x 8.5" on #18 canvas cut to 13" x 13"

Proficiency level: Advanced Intermediate

Instruction Booklet and marked canvas \$55.

Students will supply their own threads.

The final cost per member will be determined after registration ends depending on the number of participants.

Here is a list of threads used on the model and the quantity kitted:

Model colors: Quantity kitted

**Reds:** (Main color)

Vineyard silks - Color A - #135 "Sangria" 2 skeins    Color B - #115 "Rust" 1/2 skein

Splendor silks - Color C - #1005 (darker) 1/2 card    Color D - #1081 (lighter) 1/2 card

Silk Lamé braid for 18 - #SL52 1 card

Kreinik 1/16" ribbon #021C - "copper" 1 reel

**Greens:** (Secondary color)

Splendor silks - Color E - #1100 (dark) 2 cards    Color F - #1111 (light) 2 cards

Hand dyed Silk – Gloriana #113 Autumn Arbor 2 skeins

To register for this class, please notify Ellen Saines by **Feb. 27th**. Final cost per member will be determined at that time and payment due by March 27th.

## METROPOLITAN REGION NEWS

### Lecture

Stephan Romero will present a lecture via Zoom on Saturday, January 10, on America's Tapestry, an exhibit he is creating to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. This lecture is sponsored by the Metropolitan Region and is free to all MET Region members. Members will receive an announcement email from the Region's groups.io account.

### Stitching in Montvale 2026

There is nothing better than stitching with friends, whether they are long-time friends or friends you just met! Bring your stitching and a friend (all guests are welcome) and stitch with fellow stitchers from the Metropolitan Region EGA. Our EGA President, Lea Peacock, will also be joining us for the weekend.

Stitching in Montvale 2026 will again be held at the Montvale Courtyard Marriott Hotel, 100 Chestnut Ridge Road, Montvale, NJ, 07645, on Saturday and Sunday, April 25 and 26. Attendees will have the option of stitching in our Stitching Room on Saturday and/or Sunday. Attendees are not required to stay at the host hotel and will be able to take advantage of the many reasonable restaurants in the area. Those attendees wanting to stay at the host hotel will be provided with a link to book their hotel room.

**Registration Information:** EGA members and guests are welcome to register for either one day (Saturday or Sunday) or both days in the Stitching Room. Registration is now open and will close on March 25. The per-person registration fee is \$50 for both days or \$30 for one day. Please note that this fee is non-refundable. Payment can be made by either a check or electronically. Registration and payment information can be found on the registration form.

**Hotel Information:** The Montvale Courtyard Marriott Hotel is less than a mile from the Garden State Parkway, exit #172 and about 3 minutes from the New York/New Jersey border, making this location very convenient for our Region members, regardless of where they live.

We will again be in the Hamilton/Burr Meeting Room located on the second floor of the hotel, at the top of the stairs from the hotel's lobby. Elevators in the hotel will also be available.

No food will be allowed in the classrooms/stitching room, but the hotel does have a bistro/lounge area on the first floor in which you can bring in food for lunch or dinner. The bistro is open for breakfast from 6 am – 10 am on weekends.

Any lighting and/or magnification needed must be battery operated as no electrical cords are allowed. Also, pack a nametag in your stitching bag as none will be provided.

**Sleeping Room Information:** We have made arrangements with the hotel for a contracted sleeping room rate of \$199 per night (Friday, April 24 and/or Saturday, April 25) for either a single or double sleeping room, plus taxes. Attendees must make their own reservations. The link will be provided at a later date.

Please note that there is a drop-down list to select the nights. Sleeping room reservations must be made by March 25. The hotel also has several ADA compliant sleeping rooms. All sleeping rooms have in-room coffee service and a refrigerator. Free Wi-fi is also provided.

**Dining Information:** For your dining pleasure there are many options available. Attached to the hotel is the Fire and Oak Restaurant that is open for dinner on weekends. Within minutes of the hotel are many other restaurants and casual dining including Wegman's and Whole Foods. Further information will be provided at a later date.

**"Shopping" Information:** As every stitcher knows, we love to shop. We will again have a table for those who want to bring gently used charts and/or stitching-related items that are no longer wanted but another stitcher might find useful. This is a free exchange.

The link to this information can be found on our Region's website at <https://metroega.org/events/>.

We hope that you can stitch with us! Questions or concerns can be addressed to Janice Meyers.

**STITCHING IN MONTVALE 2026**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 25 & SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026  
MONTVALE COURTYARD MARRIOTT HOTEL  
REGISTRATION ENDS MARCH 25, 2026**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

EGA Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_ EGA Member #: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**ATTENDEES DO NOT NEED TO BE MEMBERS OF EGA – GUESTS ARE WELCOME!**

Indicate days selected:

Both Saturday and Sunday \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday only \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday only \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration will close March 25, 2026.** The registration fee is \$50 for both days or \$30 for one day. Please make your check payable to Metropolitan Region EGA. Note that this fee is nonrefundable.

**\*Attendees also have the option of paying electronically via Zelle – Zelle payments can be sent to [metroega@gmail.com](mailto:metroega@gmail.com). If paying via Zelle, please indicate what the payment is for – i.e., Stitching Room: 1-day or 2-days. Also, if sending payment via Zelle, the completed registration form can be emailed to Janice Meyers instead of mailing it.**

Mail this form with your check to:

Janice Meyers

Registration forms may be reproduced. Please make a copy for your records.

The link to information about this event can be found on our Region’s website at <https://metroega.org/events/>.

**CHAPTER NEWS**

**THANK YOU**

Thank you for all the cards, notes and wishes. I appreciate all your thoughts as I recover.

It warmed my heart.

Thank you again,  
Carolyn Smith

**MEMBERSHIP - Toni Kendrick**

Please welcome our newest member.

Palmyra (Pam) McAllan

**SUNSHINE - Carolyn Stumpf**

Get Well cards were sent to Marilyn Prado, Carolyn Smith, Angela Tolas, and Sharon Rosen.

A sympathy card was sent to Valerie Ferrante on the loss of her mother.

If you know anyone in need of sunshine, please contact Carolyn Stumpf.

**HELP WANTED!**

We are in need of a volunteer for each of the following:

- Show & Tell Coordinator
- Outreach Coordinator
- Day Coordinator

Please contact Ellen if you can help our chapter.

Thank you.

***The EGA Mission Statement:***

The mission of the Embroiderers' Guild is to inspire passion for the needle arts through education and the celebration of its heritage.

***A reminder to our members who attend in-person day meetings:***

Please pick up any needles that may have dropped onto the floor. The church uses the same room for children's activities and needles on the floor can be dangerous to the children.

**PROGRAM REGISTRATION COUPON**

Please make checks payable to **Monmouth Chapter EGA** and send to:

**For Evening programs:** Kathy Sullivan

**For Day programs:** Janice Meyers

**For Sunday programs:** Sharon Rosen

Program Name \_\_\_\_\_

Cost \_\_\_\_\_

Color Choice \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

**MCEGA 2026 Board Members Contact List**

|   |
|---|
| Ellen Saines 3rd term<br>Co-President to '22        |
| Angela Tolas 2nd term<br>VP/Education to '27        |
| Celia McCallum<br>Treasurer to '27                  |
| Janice Meyers<br>Secretary '26 2 <sup>nd</sup> term |
| Carolyn Stumpf<br>Corresponding Chair               |
| Day Coordinator                                     |
| Kathy Sullivan<br>Evening Coordinator               |
| Toni Kendrick<br>Membership                         |
| Anne Flaherty-Rajswasser<br>Newsletter Editor       |
| Helen Schauer<br>Parliamentarian                    |
| Janice Meyers<br>Region Representative              |
| Sharon Rosen<br>Sunday Coordinator                  |
| Kathy Sullivan<br>Webmistress                       |

## CHAPTER INFORMATION

### CHAPTER MEETINGS

The Monmouth Chapter of the Embroiderers' Guild of America, Inc is an organization interested in and dedicated to teaching, sharing, and promoting the skills of needlework. We welcome all interested parties to join us, from beginner to advanced.

Our **day meeting** meets September-November & January - May, from 10 am to 2 pm, on the third Thursday of the month at the Colts Neck Community Church, 25 Merchants Way (off Rt 34, Colts Neck). For information, call Janice Meyers.

Our **evening meeting** meets September-June, from 7 pm to 9 pm, on the first Monday of the month, at the Colts Neck Library, 2 Veterans Way, Colts Neck NJ. For information call Kathy Sullivan.

Our **Sunday meeting** meets September-June, the 2nd Sunday of the month except for October & May when we meet the 3rd Sunday from 1 to 4. Meetings are held at the Maplewood Senior Center, 106 Burnett Avenue, Maplewood, NJ. For information call: Sharon Rosen.



***Members can attend all monthly meetings.***

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**MCEGA's website address is [www.mcega.org](http://www.mcega.org).**

**Also check our chapter Facebook page:  
Monmouth Chapter Embroiderers' Guild of America  
Be sure to check it out and LIKE US!**

**And on Instagram:  
Monmouthchapterega**